

County of Los Angeles
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES

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BRYCE YOKOMIZO
Director



May 24, 2005

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Bryce Yokomizo, Director 
Department of Public Social Services

Laura Zucker, Director 
Los Angeles County Arts Commission

Board of Supervisors
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SUBJECT: REPORT ON MUSEUMS' FREE ADMISSION PROGRAM FOR LOW-INCOME FAMILIES (BOARD ORDER #37 - AUGUST 17, 2004)

This is to share the exciting news with you on the expansion of museums' free admission program to low-income families receiving CalWORKs/Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA) and/or Food Stamp benefits.

After the program's great success at the Ford Amphitheater last summer, on August 17, 2004, your Board approved the expansion of the program for the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County and the Museum of Art. Your Board also instructed the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) and the Los Angeles County Arts Commission to request other museums in the County to grant free access for the same population.

We are pleased to share with you that there are now 18 participating venues for low-income families receiving CalWORKs/RCA and/or Food Stamps to enjoy. Working with the participating venues, they equally shared the excitement of the opportunity to offer these families access to their facility. Free admission is conditional upon presentation of the family's Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) card.

A Museum and Gardens brochure (Attachment I) and a John Anson Ford Theatre Summer Events flier (Attachment II) have been developed for mailing, the last week in May 2005, to all CalWORKs/RCA and Food Stamp participants. Furthermore, participating venues will receive the California Advantage or EBT announcement (Attachment III) for display at their sites.

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

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Additionally, DPSS and the Los Angeles County Arts Commission will be issuing a joint press release later this month. The release will announce the wonderful opportunity to expand current services to low-income families, and promote museum visits as family-focused activities that expand visitors' knowledge of art, culture and history.

BY:fg

Attachments

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
 Chief Administrative Office
 County Counsel